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County Life

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Canadian history
Diving in with the Dust Detectives on page 2

Songs of summer
Blasts from the past on page 5

Grateful for Gelert
Sculpture stories on page 12

Scheduled for Aug. 7 and 8 this year, the Wilberforce Agricultural Fair is a staple to summertime in the Haliburton Highlands. /TIM YANO file

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Dust Detectives, Mystery 3:

Is it *Hudson* or *Hudson's*?

MISS FIELDS said it could be either. The Canada map in her classroom spelled it *Hudson Bay*, named after English explorer Henry Hudson. But Thom and I learn today that it also names a white scratchy blanket we find while sleuthing for antiques in Pops' hayloft. Thom isn't interested at first since it's *just some gnarly old bedspread.* But I recognize its bright colours from a mile away. Green, red, yellow and dark blue stripes are sometimes on Canadian Olympic uniforms, or on other stuff I've seen in stores. Why would Pops have such a blanket?

We start investigating. It's pretty heavy, smells *sheepy*, and never in a million years would I pull one over myself. It's itchy to my fingers like wool sweaters are to my neck. Those four big colours are so gorgeous, though, and I love anything striped.

Hmm. I think those colours might mean something. Like flags do. Thom says the blanket is old since modern ones aren't this rough. Wool was warmer and more available back then, and Canadian homes were freezing in winter. Thom guesses that those four thin stitch-lines on Pops' blanket represented its value. Did it cost four dollars? That used to be a ton of money. Or four beaver pelts in exchange? We know about the early fur trade.

OK! we say. *That's all we can do for now. Let's ask Pops for the rest …*

He's been waiting for us in his brown recliner and leafing through an issue of *Better Farming*. He nibbles on a peach. Juice shines on his chin. We approach him with the blanket. *Hey Pops*! we say. *We need final answers!*

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

I continue. *Here's what I* ***think*** *we know. It's made of wool. It's heavy. There's something Canadian about it. This stripe design is still around. I've seen it.*

Pops puts down his peach and magazine and leans forward as we speculate. He says we're partly right. But it's way more than *some gnarly old bedspread.* His slowish voice gets excited.

A family blanket! My grandfather got two from his grandfather in Labrador. We used those in winter. I could never relax under one, but they sure looked pretty! They were woven from wool in England, and some got cut into coats. Those extra stitches up the edges were called points. They meant size and weight, not animal pelts for trade. This blanket's a double, and weighs about six pounds. Some think those four colours symbolized something. I don't think so. They were just the easiest dyes to get back then. We called them Hudson Bay blankets. Others add ***s*** *to Hudson. That's the official spelling of the oldest, longest-lasting company in North America. The Hudson's Bay Company. Started with trading posts. The business lasted 355 years. Closed down in 2025. That's sad. It's what this 100-year-old thinks anyway.*

How's ***that*** *for a blanket statement? And I definitely wouldn't pull the wool over the eyes of THE DUST DETECTIVES … !*

Author's Note: Our second read-aloud newspaper series for today's kids investigates and honours the generations before them. Past lifetimes were as meaningful then as our current realities are to us. Kids everywhere are naturally curious, and they love a good historical mystery. Everyone does!

Artifacts are not always recognizable to newer generations. In this series, twin detectives (you might recognize them from Series 1), apply their former teacher's learning approach to examine their great-grandfather's antique col-lection. There's a real photo every time, questions, specula-tion, informed answers, and hopefully, revived knowledge around what was once very important to our elders. Enjoy!

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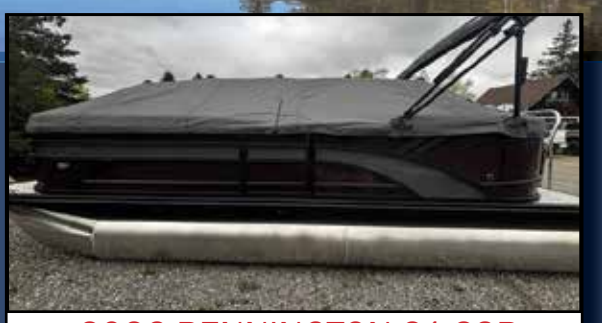

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Fishing fashionista

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

I SUPPOSE a lot of you already know this, but the sign of a good angler is not merely his or her ability to catch fish. Anyone can do that. And any five-year-old with a Mickey Mouse rod and reel can do it even better.

The sign of a good angler is that he or she knows how to dress throughout the angling season. Whether sashaying down a dock or taking a restful Sunday stroll into a new bait shop, the mark of a true angler is knowing how to work their look.

You need to have a style that turns heads and makes people think, "Now there goes a carp fisherman!"

Not to brag, but when it comes to fishing fashion, I am somewhat of an *Eve's Ain't Low Rent*, but perhaps a little more elegant.

For instance, I don't care whose wedding I'm invited to, you'll never catch me wearing chest waders after June. That's because I have fashion sense – and an appropriate pair of tailored hip waders.

The problem is, as fishing becomes more commonplace and casual, people are forgetting the dress code that anglers like myself have worked so hard to develop. Here's a sad example: the other day I passed a boatful of anglers and not one of them had worm guts strategically strewn across their fishing shirts.

Ha! Fishing shirt? When I referred to them as that, I was being very loose in my definition. Not one of them had ever been punctured by a treble hook! Nor had any member of that boat brought along an appropriately aged fishing vest to complete the look. If they had, I would have smelled it.

Likewise, their choice of headgear was, for lack of a better term, a hot mess! Three of the anglers were wearing baseball caps that you could tell had never spent any time at the bottom of a boat. I would dare say that not one of those hats had ever been blown off the head of their owners when the guy at the tiller showed everyone how fast the boat could go. Worse still, you could tell that not a single one of those hats, which had zero branding for the angler's favourite fishing company or the phrase "Kiss my Bass!," had been worn on more than five fishing trips.

And don't even get me started on their footwear! I mean, the only time it's acceptable to wear new running shoes while fishing, is when you are fishing for muskie, because the odds are good you won't catch one anyways. Otherwise, wear a set of shoes that either has fish blood, or yours from the last time you filleted a fish, on it.

Speaking of fish blood, not one of those anglers gave any thought to even the most basic accessorizing. There were no stylishly placed band aids or stitches on any of their hands to indicate they had tried to grab a muskie by the lower lip or pick up a pike by the gills.

Nor were there any fishing flies or rubber worms and hooks hanging from their ears. Do these people not watch any fishing show bloopers?

Sure, you can get away with worm-covered jeans, a dirty shirt, any old ball cap, and cheap sunglasses but, honestly, that's so 1980.

You need to develop a style of your own that says, "Stay away. He's weird."

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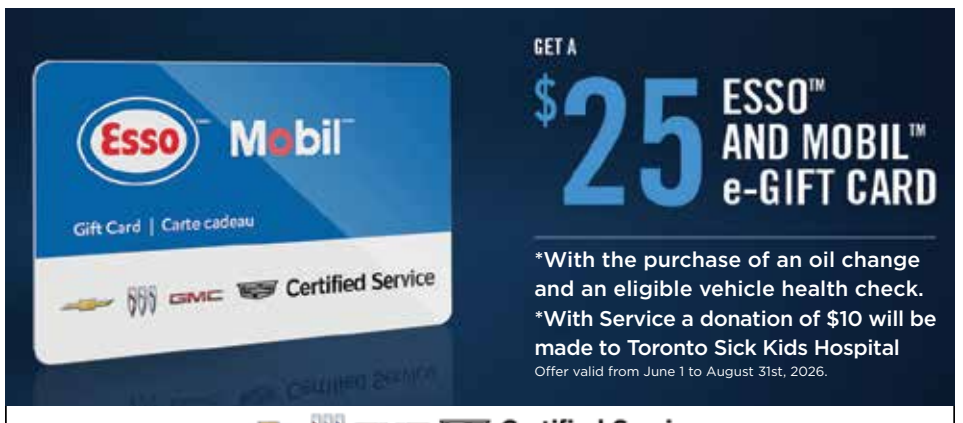

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Writing on the Senior Side

Summer and songs of the '60s

GAIL STELTER

County Life Contributor

Halfway comes too quickly. As you read this story, we are about to enter August, and summer is the glass that is either half full or half empty. I am going with half full and so much more to enjoy.

We had a wonderful day outing to Oak Lake near Stirling, Ontario. My son's band was playing at Oak Lake Beach. My daughter rented an AirBnB two cottages away from the beach, and my other son joined her. Kids and grandkids, together singing and dancing on the beach, are always guaranteed to make for an amazing summertime. Even the two-hour drive down was a sweet time. We tuned in to '60s Gold and sang along with our favourites. These were the songs of our youth, and each one brought back memories of days long gone but never forgotten. I have chosen to refill my glass with songs of summer in the '60s and to reminisce about the times they invoke.

See you in September, 1966 by The Happenings. I went away for the summer in 1966 to be a counselor at Camp Marygrove. So many memories, but the one that fits best with this song is about a boy I met a few weeks before going away and deciding at camp that I was not ready for a boyfriend. He didn't lose me to a summer love; I was just having too much fun growing and being away and not interested in boyfriends. I sent him a letter to say farewell. Letters and postcards were the communication vehicles of summer in the '60s. Are there any *See you in September* memories in your summers in the '60s?

You Were On My Mind, 1966 by the We Five. Three girls walked home from the Humber Loop on a hot summer night and sang this song all the way, at the top of their lungs. Every time I hear it or play it, I remember the carefree summer of singing whenever and wherever. We didn't have "troubles" or "worries"; we just liked the song.

Did you start every summer with *School is Out* 1961 by Gary Bonds or *Vacation*, 1962 by Connie Francis, also 1962 … v a ... c a … t i o n, and we were ready to have a ball.

As an original teeny bopper who grew up on my teenage brother's music. I can't leave out Elvis for summer songs. Susan and I were downstairs at her house using her sister Franny's - who was the same age as my brother - record player and Franny's 45 rpm of *Don't Be Cruel*. We sang and danced … over and over until the record player started smoking. *Don't Be Cruel* came out in 1956, but it was a great summer song for us in 1961. And, still reaching back to the '50s for the times when the last dance was always slow, I recall *Love Letters in the Sand*, 1957 by Pat Boone and *One Summer Night*,1958 by The Danleers, and my all-time favourite last dance, *Put Your Head on My Shoulder*, 1960 by Paul Anka.

There was a dance not too far from my house. We would walk there, and a parent would pick us up. It was called the Club Kingsway. One night they had a singer I didn't know. His name was Wilson Pickett. I was forever more a Wilson Pickett fan in the *Land of a Thousand Dances*,1966, *Mustang Sally*, 1966, and *In the Midnight Hour*, 1965.

Dances were all around us, from church halls to community centers to those awesome teen dances every night during the Ex, and we were not shy to be *Dancing in the Street*, 1964 by Martha and the Vandellas or to dance and sing all summer long with the Beatles. It was always a *Good Day Sunshine*, 1966, when we had the Beatles.

From 1967 on, the sharing of songs became part of a new love. It was mostly the Beatles with a little summer surfing music by the Beach Boys. We also sang the folk songs of Bob Dylan, *Blowing in the Wind*, 1963 and *Don't Think Twice, It's All Right*, 1963; The Mamas and the Papas: Dedicated to the *One I Love*, 1967 and *California Dreamin'*, 1966 and *Leaving on a Jet Plane*, by John Denver and recorded by Peter, Paul and Mary, 1966.

We sang in the car; we sang at the beach; we climbed on the top of his little box red car and sang from the roof. We danced at Club 888 and in Yorkville Coffee Houses. The first song he played guitar and sang for me was Norwegian Wood, 1965.

Singing the songs of the '60s always brings back wonderful memories, and musical memories are a treasure of living on the Senior Side.

Our children grew up on our music, and I love that they too remember and sing along. However, the tables turned, and we learned to love the Tragically Hip, including my favourites: *Ahead by a Century*, 1996, and *Blow At High Dough*. Yes, I am proud to be a fan of this extraordinary Canadian group and the poetry of Gord Downie. They also turned me into a renewed fan of Neil Young with *Heart of Gold*, 1972 and *Harvest Moon*, 1992. They introduced us to more wonderful music and musical memories with "new artists" like Sheryl Crow, *All I Wanna Do*, 1994, Guns N' Roses, *Patience*, 1988 and The Eagles, *Take It Easy*, 1972. The first time my daughter played guitar and sang *Good Mother* by Jann Arden, I cried. I love the music chosen by my children and brought by them to so many wonderful campfires.

Now back to Oak Lake, where my son sang *Honkey Tonk Woman*, 1969 by the Rolling Stones, and I danced and sang with abandon. He sang it just for me, but everyone was up dancing and singing. The songs of the '60s are for every generation, and I hope this little trip down my musical memory lane brought you back to your favourites and your summer memories. Keep singing and remembering. These are some of the greatest joys of living on the senior side.

Tag day success!

On behalf of the Minden Health Care Auxiliary, we would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way, big or small, to make our Tag Day another huge success! Because of the amazing generosity of this community, we were able to raise almost $6,000!!!

With these funds, we will be able to support Hyland Crest Long Term Care home with their needs and contribute to the Adult Day Program. We can't do these things without the kindness of the public, the media and all businesses involved. We appreciate you all!

And please don't forget to get your "Wine on Wheels" tickets! It's your chance to win 48 bottles of wine and a wheelbarrow (generously donated by Canadian Tire). Tickets are available at our Gift Shop just outside the Long Term Care Home and from most members. $5.00 per ticket or three for $10.00. Draw to be held September 26th at the Minden Farmer's Market. Good Luck!

Cecille Gibbons
Minden Health Care Auxiliary

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Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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An ordinary day

THE OTHER day, I felt my heart break. Not for any specific reason. Nothing had necessarily happened.

But the feeling of my heart, ebbing and flowing through my chest, is something I've become more mindful of since becoming a parent.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

It was an ordinary day. Nothing notable that stood out. Pancakes for breakfast, grilled cheese for lunch. As is the standard for a Saturday at home, I spent countless hours with my son at his Hot Wheels race track, we'd collected rocks from the garden, pointed out a slug during our evening walk.

And at bedtime, under the twinkle of rainbow holiday lights, we had a family hug. My son, my husband, and myself. The three of us, cuddled together, as the skies opened up and the soil drank in the rain.

And my heart broke.

At least, I think it did. It shifted, wobbled. In that exact moment, I felt so complete. So at ease. So happy.

To be a mother is to have one foot in the past while the other wades the waters of the future. So rare it is, to sit completely still in the present.

But for that brief and fleeting moment, under the rainbow holiday lights, I was there.

We have a rule, in our house, to never let go of a hug before the child does. We hold them as long as they need. Sometimes it's a flash, and other times, they settle into it, their little bodies not realizing that they needed a soft place to land.

While I sat in that moment, that tiny speck of a day, I thought of the absolute beauty of an ordinary day. How blessed we are that our ordinary day consists of rocks and slugs, trucks and trains.

And how these perfectly ordinary days are gradually becoming the building blocks to my son's ever-evolving nervous system, how his inner child, who will forever inhabit his spirit and soul as he walks through life, will feel fed, seen, supported.

I can only hope.

The beauty of the ordinary. Of crisp skies in shades of blue you could never quite describe. Lemonade from a plastic jug, sweltering in the heat. Smooth pebbles and robin songs and a new book with a spine that cracks in all the right places.

An ordinary day of pancakes and grilled cheese, the warmth of an old lamp flicked on inside while rain pelts the windows, music that makes your heart beat against the bars of your chest. Coffee with cream, the laugh of an old friend. Ivy that weaves and wanders on red brick, fireflies that dance through fields. A snowfall that blankets the world in silence, the way the sun dips below the water in July, making room for the stars to have their time to shine.

The beauty of the ordinary. Those moments under rainbow holiday lights, hugs that last a little longer.

It breaks my heart. One foot in the past, one wading the waters of the future.

And every so often, right here, right now.

Heart shifting and wobbling.

So complete. So at ease.

So happy.

Top 10 reasons the robotic toilet is a bad idea

The other day I was watching a TV show about new technology, and they featured a robotic toilet. It looks like a toilet in every way, except for the fact that it will roll to your location when you need it. There are so many reasons why this is a bad idea, but these are my top 10.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Daily traffic jams at the office after morning coffee break.
2. If it chases you with a malfunctioning seat, it will be just like your worst Packman nightmare.
3. High chance that it will confuse you for the docking station.
4. Eventually, it's going to want vengeance.
5. If the machines finally rise, you don't want to be cornered by one.
6. Could be a rough ride if it decides to take you to the downstairs washroom.
7. Potential for having to deal with a moving target at just the wrong time.
8. CAA has no Gold Plan for it yet.
9. Kids will absolutely have toilet races.
10. If this catches on, the next generation will fly.

Wild

Molten Sun melting in an ashen Sky, smoke choking Air,
animals and humans inhaling haze as wildfires rage, rampaging through forests, torching trees,
scorching the earth that cradled them from birth, 'till all that remains are the charred bones of trees,
poking from the ground like funeral pyres in this forest cemetery where birds and deer sought sanctuary,
now displaced like those whose Homes have been devoured by flames, fleeing the fires that sear their Breath,
longing for reprieve, for Rain to scour Air and drench the blaze, slashes of lightning striking the forest floor,
sparking fresh fires that singe the face of Sun, mushroom clouds of smoke billowing in a charcoal Sky,
darkness blooming in the middle of Day, as the earth thirsts for Rivers of Rain, Air,
holding its Breath, gasping to breathe,
trees trembling in forests far away, feeling the plight of their con-freres from their leaves down to their roots,
waves of Wind carrying smoke to places where spaces are crammed with more humans than trees,
sealing themselves behind closed doors and windows, Air, too thick to breathe,
watching wildfires blaze on TV screens
in the coolness of rooms, while forests are whittled to bone, only the boulders that lived
among the trees, remain,
the flames unable to ravage their stone skin, the fires, savage, in their hunger, h
olding the forests hostage each summer,
the trees, unable to flee, chained to their fate by their roots, the earth that birthed them, blistering,
Sky that sheltered them, shrouding their bones, the earth and forests craving Rain to drown the flames,
to spare the trees that still remain, to soothe the earth's wounds and scars so tendrils of
fresh growth can bloom,
leaving room for the elders to breathe, those that survived and didn't perish in the fires,
breathing Air, scrubbed clean by Rain, again, along with humans who turn off their TVs and
open their windows,
and go Outside, to inhale summer again, no longer held hostage by smoke choking
Air, searing the face of Sun,
its light streaming down onto those that had to flee or lost their Homes,
finding refuge in the arms of those that reach out to hold them, the Hearts of humans, blazing wild
with the will and desire to survive, that no fires can extinguish.

Sylvie Kalenda

Canada Post and the shuttering of community newspapers

PAUL DEEGAN

President and Chief Executive Officer of News Media Canada

The shuttering of Winnipeg's Community Review means 200,000 households will no longer get the benefit of a free community newspaper delivered to their door. It also means that more than 800 people who deliver the paper and their families will be affected.

This is an unforced error that never should have happened. How did we get here? The answer is complex.

First, there is a high degree of concentration in the flyer printing market in Canada. Montreal-based TC Transcontinental enjoys the dominant position in the marketplace thanks, in part, to a 2012 Competition Bureau-approved asset swap.

Second, municipal and provincial politicians have passed environmental regulations, however well-intentioned, have unintended consequences. Former Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante passed a municipal bylaw that led to the end of distribution of Publisac (a plastic bag with flyers and a community newspaper). Several provinces, including Manitoba, have imposed extended producer responsibility levies on printed newspapers. Ontario's Premier Doug Ford made the wise decision to exempt newspapers from this kind of stealthy journalism job-killing tax in his province.

Third, Canada Post is the biggest culprit. TC Transcontinental, which had distributed Publisac door-to-door in Quebec, formed a strategic partnership with Canada Post, which as a Crown corporation was not beholden to municipal bylaws. They bypassed Mayor Plante's new regulation by distributing a curated bundle of flyers called Raddar through the national postal service. Unlike Publisac, Raddar did not include a community newspaper. On the sidelines of this saga, news publisher Métro Média and its more than 30 hyperlocal publications - including 17 print newspapers – shut down.

In partnership with Canada Post, TC Transcontinental recently expanded its Raddar offering across Canada. It is understood that Canada Post – which has a mandate to "charge postage rates that are fair and reasonable" – is offering TC Transcontinental rates below what it is offering to community newspapers. To its own benefit, the Crown corporation has effectively shut community newspapers – their private sector rivals – out of flyer distribution, lessening competition substantially in that market.

This is not the first time community newspaper publishers have felt the squeeze of Canada Post in the flyer distribution market. As of January 2024, community newspapers with commercial inserts were no longer exempt from Canada Post's Consumers' Choice program, which allows Canadians to opt out of receiving 'junk mail'. Canada Post made that decision without stakeholder consultation or economic/social impact analysis and failed to recognize that community newspapers – with or without an insert – are not 'junk mail'; they are a social good.

The juxtaposition of the shuttering of Winnipeg's Community Review at the same time as the revelation of $30.8 million in bonuses at Canada Post has not been lost on community newspaper publishers across Canada.

What should Ottawa do about it?

First, Joël Lightbound, the Minister responsible for Canada Post, should ensure the Crown corporation is treating community newspapers fairly and offering them comparable pricing to what it offers to TC Transcontinental.

Second, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage should conduct hearings into the role Canada Post can play in the sustainability of community newspapers – ensuring the relationship is one of partnership, rather than predatory and parasitic.

When a community loses a newspaper, like Winnipeg's Community Review or Métro Média's publications in Quebec, the information vacuum can lead to people getting their news from less than reliable sources – like AI and social media – which can create division that drives people apart. Without a check on local government, corruption, mismanagement, and wasteful spending often flourish, which can result in higher municipal taxes and borrowing costs.

It was not foreign Big Tech monopolists like Google and Meta that caused Manitoba's largest community newspaper to shutter. It was Canada Post.

And it's not like we weren't warned …

Thirty years ago, in his review of Canada Post's mandate, George Radwanski recommended that postal service get out of delivering unaddressed junk mail (i.e., flyers), concluding that the Crown corporation engaged in inappropriate practices that created unfair competition for private businesses like community newspapers.

As a former Toronto Star editor-in-chief, Radwanski knew the news business. He noted that Canada Post was actively siphoning advertising revenue away from the news industry and adroitly cautioned that the state-granted mail delivery monopoly should not be in the business of crippling the financial health of newspapers.

A healthy democracy demands a healthy community news media ecosystem. Let's level the playing field and restore competition in the flyer distribution market before more community newspapers shutter.

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Midnight Madness downtown Haliburton. /TIM YANO file

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Rotary Club of Haliburton

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Foodland parking lot

7 p.m.

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Art in a small town, why it takes a musician so long to shop

As an artist and musician, there's nothing quite as satisfying as working alongside people who are fully dedicated to their art.

One of the greatest things about Haliburton is that we get to play music and create art alongside the same people over and over again. Anytime a new project, performance, or ensemble pops up, you can bet that there will be a lineup of passionate creatives willing to help bring it to life.

Part of what makes Haliburton a hub for artistic tourism is the diversity of art forms and our thriving creative communities. The Haliburton School of Art and Design, the Highlands Opera Studio, the Highlands Summer Festival, and the Haliburton Folk Society are just a few small examples of groups that keep the arts scene as explosive as it is. The highly anticipated Arts Centre is bound to ramp that excitement up to another level.

One of the things I find so awesome, and a little bit hilarious, is that I see the same people involved in everything. The Highlands Little Theatre, the Highlands Chamber Orchestra, the Swing band, the Concert Band, and the Choirs (there are at least three choirs that I know of) all have memberships that overlap.

Going to the grocery store after orchestra practice on a Friday evening means you will encounter ten people from said orchestra, all shopping for the weekend. It's a challenge to get out of there without at least 30 minutes of post-rehearsal chit-chat with familiar faces. All the while knowing you'll see them again tomorrow at some other event. I know not everyone loves this aspect, but I'm a chatter, so it's what I love most about our little arts community – I'm so sorry to anyone I made uncomfortable in the grocery store. I mean, seriously, just tell me you're in a rush. I can live with it.

Music and art are meant to connect people, and in a small town, that connection is felt deeply. An ensemble is an example of people whose hearts beat and lungs expand together. The music played with friends sounds so much sweeter. The murals on our town walls are so much more meaningful when you know the person who painted them. Art becomes a connection when you know the history behind the art.

Getting involved in the arts, especially in our small town, opens the door to real connection and togetherness.

It is a connection that we need more than ever.

There is no shortage of things to do, art to enjoy, and events to attend in our artistic community.

Spend the morning checking out the Rail's End Gallery, the afternoon lounging around the lake, and the evening out at some amazing concerts or shows. In the summer, you'll probably need to choose from at least two or three.

This is why I am recommending that everyone get out and do some local arts therapy. Participate in it, watch it, buy it, support it. Be present in the arts scene now, and you, too, can spend an extra glorious 30 minutes in the grocery store.

Submitted by Bethany Houghton, Blue Jay Café

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Nature in your backyard

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Tongue out by Tammy Nash

Hummingbird by Jill Moulton

MINDEN ROTARYFEST

Saturday, August 15 | 6 to 9 p.m.

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BREWERY

Sunday, August 16 | 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Downtown and on Prince Street

Kidz Zone

Games
Dunk Tank
Axe Throwing
Car Races

Pockets the Clown
Minden Legion - Minnow Races
Fish Pond

Events and Attractions

Classic Cars hosted by OK Tire/ Minden Auto Care

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Merchant Sidewalk Sale

Firefighter Demo at 11 & 1

Junk in the Trunk

Fashion Show

Register for Junk in the Trunk at info@MindenRotary.ca

50/50 tickets are available at:

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Lottery Licence Number M818570

Story of Gelert

BRODY BOLGER
County Life Contributor

Hello everyone, about a month back I wrote about the Happy Hippo within the Sculpture Forest, and I got a lot of positive feedback, so thank you all very much for reading and enjoying my ramblings! This week, to pull back the metaphorical curtain, has been hard for me. I'll spare you the details, but when I was walking through the Sculpture Forest looking for something to write about, I looked right into the eyes of Gelert.

Gelert is a beautiful bronze sculpture of a dog named Gelert, crafted by Mary Anne Barkhouse, who is an incredibly talented artist from the Nimpkish band, Kwakiutl First Nation. The meaning behind the tarnished bronze is a 13th-century Welsh folktale in which Prince Llywelyn Gelert, who was the most powerful native ruler of Wales, went on a hunting trip with his infant son and his loyal trusted dog Gelert. I don't want to tell the folk tale today, as it's a story that ends in tragedy. If you are interested, we do tours every Tuesday at 10, and Gelert will be seen, and the story will be told. You're probably asking yourself why I would bring up the meaning behind a sculpture and not tell the story. Well, it's because when I look into the affable eyes of Gelert, I don't see Prince Llywelyn's loyal companion; I see mine.

My dog Princess was born on a farm in Peterborough on May first, 2013. I was six. We picked her out of her litter and raised her to be a part of the family. We moved in 2019, and she became accustomed to the Wilberforce winds grazing her black nose as she looked off the back deck and to the many bits of food Dad would sneak under the table. I was thirteen.

When I graduated from high school and went off to university, she took my room and never wanted to leave it. I was seventeen. When I came home after the semester, I was greeted with unconditional affection from her. I was nineteen. Two months ago, Princess passed away. She was 13. The very next day after she passed, I had the first day of my brand-new job, Sculpture Forest Ambassador. So, as I was walking through to get a feel for my new workplace, I came across Gelert. I looked up at his bronze, piercing eyes, and for a second he was her.

I say all of this to show you how art can take on new meanings even after it is crafted. After the artist creates something, it is up to the perceiver to interpret it however they may want. I wanted to see my dog again, and because I did, my connection with that sculpture is greater than what it could have been. The way you connect with art is by letting it connect with you. So please, next time you venture through the Sculpture Forest, allow your heart to use your eyes and gain a new perspective, a 'you' perspective.

Sculpture Forest - Gelert/ submitted

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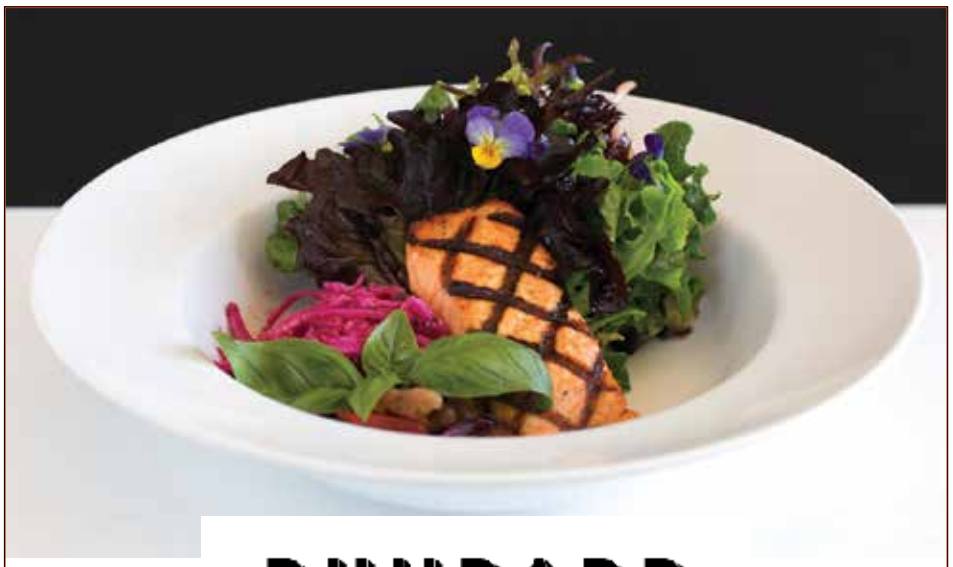

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Head Lake Park
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Join us for free, family-friendly fun in the park
4:00 - 7:30 Free kids' activities, face painting, cotton candy & popcorn
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4:00 - 7:00 *Zoo to You* - exciting animal encounters
4:30 Free vanilla ice cream till we run out
6:30 - 8:00 Music in the Park by locally-born sensation **Ryan Van Lee**
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Ryan Van Lee

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See page 2 for more listings for John & Marj Parish

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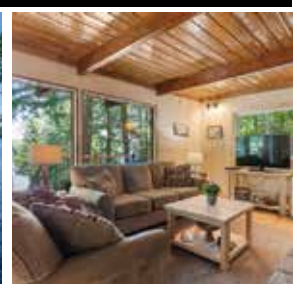
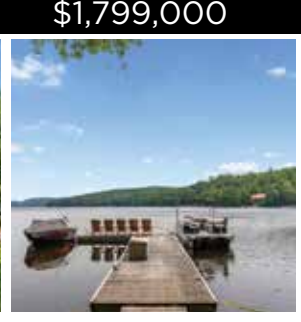
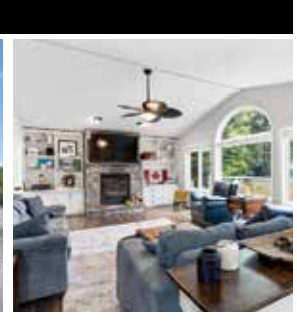
MOOSE LAKE $899,000
$899,000



BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM HOME/COTTAGE ON MOOSE LAKE! 2 BATHROOMS! LIVING RM WITH STONE FIREPLACE! FAMILY RM! EXTENSIVE LAKEVIEW DECKING, WALKOUT BASEMENT! DETACHED GARAGE WITH CARPORT! CLEAN SAND/ROCK SHORELINE WITH DEEP WATER OFF DOCK! BOATING ON A 2 LAKE CHAIN! JUST MINUTES TO SIR SAMS SKI RESORT & EAGLE LAKE BUTCHER, LIQUOR & GAS FACILITY!

SPRUCE LAKE
$1,799,000

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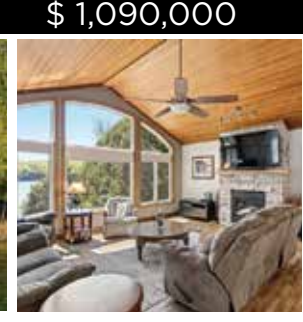
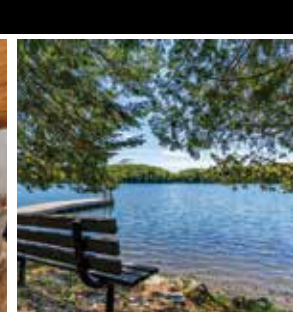

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A seller's guide in a buyer's market

STEVE GALEA

Contributing writer

There's no doubt about it. We are in a market that's more favourable to buyers than sellers. Prices are continually correcting towards pre-COVID levels. The price of housing in the southern Ontario's urban centres is taking a dive too, and this cuts into the advantage that selling a big city home and buying a rural once, once brought. But does that mean you should just sit it out, not sell your home, and wait for better times? That's a very personal decision based on a lot of factors.

However, if you do decide to sell, here are some things local realtors have told me ought to help you get the most of your sale.

- **Get a good realtor and pay careful attention to what they advise.** When markets get tough, it's time to put faith in a trusted realtor. Their experience and knowledge of the market and process of selling is more important than ever in times like this.
- **Deal with local agents.** A good real estate agent is wonderful. A good local real estate agent is even better. Local agents know the markets and are expert at setting you up for success when it comes to the sale of your home and the purchase of another in the area.
- **Be realistic about your asking price.** This generally means listening to and following the honest assessment provided to you by your local agent. Rest assured, they want you to maximize the profit you earn from your home too. But they also know the line between selling and scaring buyers away. Listen to them. It almost always pays off.
- **Be patient.** The days of bidding wars, a bevy of potential buyers, and those who purchase properties sight unseen are over. In this economy, people are more careful with their money. There will be fewer buyers and they will not feel like they have to act immediately.
- **Don't make more expensive improvements than the market can repay.** If a home improvement is going to cost you more than you will be able to recoup, don't do it. Or perhaps do a less expensive version of it. Some things, like painting a room are inexpensive but reap great rewards. Other things like renovating a kitchen so your house shows better, might not pay for itself in your asking price.
- **Be prepared to negotiate.** Again, the days of a seller getting what they ask for are no longer here. Buyers in this market will test the limits of your asking price and sometimes want concessions. Be prepared to consider some.
- **Remember the house you intend to buy is working under the same premises.** While all this might seem bleak, the up side is you get to be the buyer on the house you want to purchase. So, if you do it right, it all evens out.
- **Make the unique features of your home stand out.** When you are preparing your house for sale, consider strategic spending. This means looking at the best features of your home and improving them, rather than all of it. This is often money well spent, since it shows would-be buyers the potential of the property.
- **Present well.** While it might not make good financial sense to improve every part of your home, it does make sense to make sure your property presents well. This means keeping the lawns and gardens under control, decluttering, keeping your home tidy and in working order, and more. You don't have to make your home perfect, but you do have to give a potential buyer an opportunity to imagine how good it could be. That's easier when your place is clean and free of clutter.
- **Consider waiting out the slump.** For some, it might be best to wait for the market to take a more favourable turn. But so many factors come into play. Does a work or personal situation require you to move? Can you make enough money on the sale to make the investment in your house pay off? Can you purchase another desirable home with the equity you'll walk away with? If the answer to any of those questions is no, you might be better off building more equity in the home you have now and until conditions are more favourable to the seller. Of course that's a highly personal decision, but definitely an option to consider too.

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Commercial Listings

GULL RIVER GOLF COURSE - $2,888,888

The Gull River Golf Club has long been a Minden favourite, offering 9 holes along 2,200+ ft of Gull River shoreline. Includes a Pro Shop, putting green, chipping area, driving range, & Mulligan's Restaurant & Patio (licensed for 150). Also includes a 3-bedroom apartment above the restaurant, a 6-bed/3-bath house, & three cottages overlooking Beaver Creek—ideal for added revenue.

KENNISIS LAKE ROAD - $1,565,000

Truly a road trip destination! This 3,762 sq. ft. building sits on a 1.2 acre lot w/ easy access off Hwy. 118 in West Guilford. Zoned CH-H with many potential uses, including a back patio fit for dining. Upstairs is a large open area with a separate 2-bdrm. living quarter. The 1,758 sq. ft. basement is perfect for storage, receiving, or convert it to another commercial space. So many possibilities!

INCOME PROPERTY IN HALIBURTON - $1,100,000

This well-known property in Haliburton's historic downtown core features six fully rented units in excellent condition, with over 6300 sq. ft. of total floor area. Numerous upgrades and improvements make these units desirable. Currently a residential rental building, part of the property is zoned commercial, offering alternative uses like its past as a store and cafe. Built around 1880, the building retains historic charm and offers the potential for owner-occupancy of the main home.

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Gull Lake Luxury Cottage/ Home
$2,300,000

- 4 Bedrooms and 3 Bathrooms
- 4 Living Spaces and Wine Cellar!
- 110’ of shoreline on Gull Lake
- Custom Quality Finishes Throughout
- Double Insulated and Heated Garage

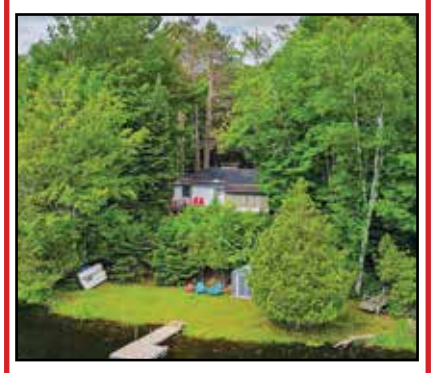
Bob Lake
$949,999

- YEAR ROUND LIVING
- 3 Bdrms and Full Finished Basement
- Detached Double Garage + Sheds
- LAUNCH from the property depending on the size of the boat

Horseshoe Lake Year Round
$890,000

- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms + Den
- 5.82 Acres of Land
- Double Car Garage
- Dock in the Lake
- Minutes to Minden

Drag River
$644,999



- 2 Bedroom + Bunkie
- 1 Bathroom with Laundry
- Livingroom + Screened in Porch
- Waterside Play Area

Commercial and Rental Income
$349,900

- Building For Sale
- 700 Sqft Retail Space at the front of the building
- Could be divided for two rental spaces
- 1 Bedroom Apartment at back of building
- Beside Municipal Parking

Gull Lake
SOLD

SOLD IN FIRM IN 18 DAYS!

- Private Setting and Great Lake Views
- 3 Bedrooms and 2 Bathroom
- 2 Living Spaces
- Multiple Decks

7 Invergordon Ave
$399,000

- In Town Home across from Gull River
- 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom
- Large Livingroom and Dining Room
- Original Kitchen with Storage

Lot for sale on County Road 21
$199,000

- 1.25 Acres with an Entrance
- Laneway to a clearing
- County Maintained Road
- Ready for a new Build

Building Lot on Ravine Road
$150,000

- 150’ wide x 450’ deep
- Entrance in place with 911 #
- Hydro underground to service pole, Hydro Panel installed
- Storage Shed 8’ x 12’ on site

Lot on Gelert Road
$165,000

- 5.4 Acres of Land
- Just North of Cty Rd 121
- County Maintained Road
- Ready for a new Build

Back Lot to Maple Lake
$95,000

- .602 of an Acre 149’ x 250’
- Corner of Providence and Fader Dr
- Year Round Road Access to Maple Lake

Lot on Bushwolfe Lake Road
$98,900

- Building Lot on Municipal Road
- 83.5’ x 176’ Sloping to the road
- Close to Public Beach on Eagle Lk
- Close to General Store, Sir Sams

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KENNISIS LAKE RD, *WEST GUILFORD*
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- Multiple living areas and a covered porch in a prime village location
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New listing $799,000
3055 Gelert Rd

- Century 3 bedroom home and studio on 11 acres
- Barn, drive shed, garage
- Separate building with commercial kitchen
- Home to Lambs and Ivy Collectibles & Norm's Smokehouse

New Price $479,000
Burdock Lake

- 2 bedroom, 3 season cottage
- amongst huge pine trees
- deep water off the dock
- new septic, plumbing, driveway

Commercial Opportunities - Resorts, Housekeeping Cabins, HVAC, Warehouse

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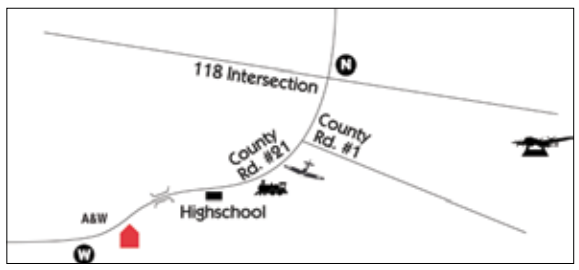

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How to make a memorable summer in the Highlands

STEVE GALEA

Contributing writer

One of the greatest things about being in the Haliburton Highlands is the variety of wonderful experiences within easy reach. The issue is that they sometimes take a while to discover if you just moved here. Furthermore, they are often forgotten or overlooked by those who have lived here for years.

Consider the following a gentle reminder of some of the great summer activities within an easy drive.

- Go boating or canoeing. (Don't have one? They're easy enough to rent.)
- Visit the museums in Minden and Haliburton. Learn a little about the place.
- Pick a lake you've never been to before. (There are probably hundreds). Make a day of discovering it.
- Go fishing.
- Take a hike on one of our many trails.
- Find a local beach. Go swimming.
- Visit our ice cream shops. Discover a new favourite flavour.
- Watch the night stars. Listen to the loons. (It never gets old.)
- Visit Haliburton Forest's to take in the Wolf Centre or one of the many other experiences offered there.
- Get the tent and camping gear out. Put them to good use.
- Take in a movie at the Highlands Cinema in Kinmount. (The memorabilia in the building is worth the price of admission. The movie is a bonus.)
- Take in a local concert or play. You'll be amazed by our local talent.
- Visit one of our farmer's markets.
- Go to one of our County Fairs.

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• 4,000+ Sq Ft 4 Bedroom Home • 205 Ft Clean Sandy Shoreline
• Level Landscaped Lot, Close to Amenities
• Guest Room, 2 Workshops, 3 Car Garage
• Must Be Seen to be Appreciated

GLEBE ROAD $1,199,999

• 4300 Sq Ft Finished Living Space • Designer Kitchen with Center Island
• Fully Finished Walkout Basement
• Landscaped with Pond, Play Area & Firepit
• Detached Garage, Close to Amenities

BOB LAKE $999,999

• Prime Level 143 Ft Fr Lot with Majestic Pines • Extensive Clean Sand Child Friendly Beach • 1950 Sq Ft 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath Year Round Home
• Garage, Bunkie, Shed and Gazebo with Deck
• Beautiful Bob Lake with Sunset West Exposure

MAPLE LAKE $899,900

• 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home / Cottage • 103 Ft Sand Beach on 3 Lake Chain
• Landscaped, Stone Patio & Walkways
• Oversized Insulated Garage with Studio
• Perfect Retirement Home

KUSHOG LAKE $898,888

• 2 Bed, 2 Bath Cedar Log Home • 165 Ft Stone Waterfront, Sunset Views
• Cozy Woostove, Master with Ensuite
• Full Basement, Wrap Around Deck
• Flagstone Patio with Firepit

TROOPER LAKE $875,000

• 3 Bedroom Home on 7+ Acre Lot • 700 Ft Shoreline, Ample Parking
• Wrap Around Deck, Covered Porch, Sunroom
• Fully Finished Lower Level with Walkout
• Detached Garage with Workshop Area

IRONDALE RIVER $699,900

• Renovated 2 Storey Home / Cottage • 3 Acres with Trails to Private Pond
• High End Finishes, Open Concept
• Full Finished Lower Level with Wet Bar
• Expansive Wrap Around Deck

BOB LAKE $649,900

• Seasonal 3 Bedroom Classic Family Cottage • 116 Ft Hard Sand Shoreline, Deep Water off Dock • Open Concept, Stone Fireplace with Insert • Spacious Bedrooms, Level Lot with Firepit
• Short Term Rental Approval from Township

HIGHWAY 118 $634,900

• Spacious Family Home on 36 Acre Treed Lot • Front Porch, Rear Patio, Skylights, Sauna • Primary Suite with Walk-in Closet and 3 Pc Ensuite
• Screened Sunroom with Hot Tub Area
• Finished Lower Level with Workshop

PARADISE LAKE $589,900

• Year Round 2 Bedroom Cottage at Waters Edge
• Sand Shoreline, Gradual Entry, Deep Water off Dock
• Expansive Lakeside Deck, Level Lot with Sitting Area
• Waterfront Bunkie with Private Deck • Close to town and all Amenities

CHELSEA LANE $585,000

• 4 Bedroom Open Concept Home
• Deeded Lake Access to Maple Lake • Double Sided Fireplace
• Oversized Garage, Charming Bunkie
• Rustic Charm & Modern Comfort

LT. HAWK LAKE $339,00

• 2 Bedroom Classic Log Cabin • 3 Season, Water Access Only
• Surrounded by Crown Land •
• Western Sunset Views, 2 Lake Chain
• Lakeside Deck with Gazebo

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New Price

GULL RIVER

$185,000

0.31 acre, MLS X13078740

New Price

SOYERS LAKE

$425,000

0.41 acre, MLS X12940510

New Price

DEEP BAY RD

$169,000

1.39 acre, MLS X13145594

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

$1,399,000

87 acres, MLS X12262979

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Featured Listing

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE - $999,900

Meticulously maintained yr-round home on the popular 5-lake chain. 2+1 beds, 3 baths plus a finished basement with a kitchenette and a walkout to the waterfront. Enjoy lake views from the deck or the gazebo, or relax on the dock. Beautiful estate-like property with an expansive backyard leading to the water, plus a paved driveway & a spacious detached 2-car garage. Make this your home!

BARNUM LAKE

NEW LISTING
$825,000

3 Bed, 3 Bath, MLS X13487988

LUTTERWORTH PINES RD

NEW LISTING
$345,000

2 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13550030

WEST RD

NEW LISTING
$399,000

2 Bed, 1 Bath

SHARON LAKE

$425,000

3 Bed, 1 Bath, MLS X13502526

GULL RIVER

NEW PRICE
$459,990

4 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13248396

SOUTH LAKE

$889,000

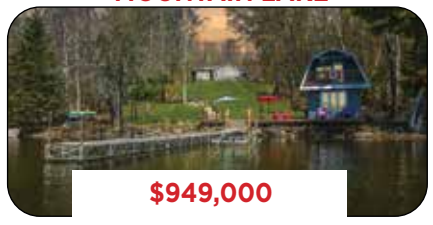
3 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13208804

HILLSIDE DRIVE

$499,000

3 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13242014

MOUNTAIN LAKE



$949,000

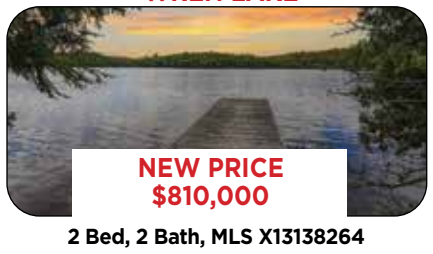
3 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13092352

SHADOW LAKE

NEW PRICE
$729,000

2 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13071344

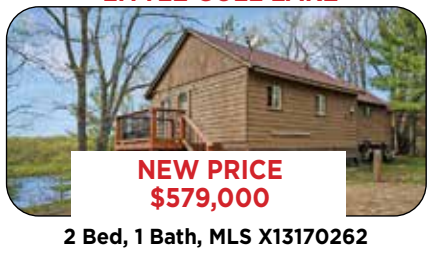
WREN LAKE



NEW PRICE
$810,000

2 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13138264

LITTLE GULL LAKE



NEW PRICE
$579,000

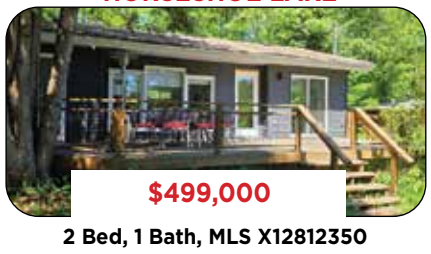
2 Bed, 1 Bath, MLS X13170262

MCCREA RD - $899,950

NEW PRICE
$869,950

3 Bed, 1 Bath, MLS X11822936

HORSESHOE LAKE



$499,000

2 Bed, 1 Bath, MLS X12812350

HUNTER CREEK ESTATES

$269,000

2 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X12944644

WATERFRONT CONDO

$635,000

2 Bed, 2 Bath, MLS X13037038

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MAPLE LAKE
$799,000

2 BEDROOMS | 1,672 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X12724676

HALIBURTON
$725,000

4 BEDROOMS | 1,961 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X13241024

SOLD

MINDEN
$699,000

4 BEDROOMS | 2,400 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X13468450

WEST GUILFORD
$699,000

4 BEDROOMS | 1,600 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X13158028

KUSHOG LAKE
$599,000

2 BEDROOMS | 653 SQFT
0 BATHROOMS | MLS X13176846

MINDEN
$599,000

3 BEDROOMS | 1,134 SQFT
1 BATHROOM | MLS X13520272

HORSESHOE LAKE
$549,000

3 BEDROOMS | 880 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X13506908

PARADISE LAKE
$499,000

3 BEDROOMS | 1,470 SQFT
2 BATHROOMS | MLS X13585630

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5 BEDROOMS | 1,175 SQFT
1 BATHROOM | MLS X13563280

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MLS X12744746

BRADY LAKE
$170,000
0.5 ACRES
MLS X13135692

HALIBURTON
$175,000
2.5 ACRES
MLS X12579816

GELERT
$199,000
19.05 ACRES
MLS X13599722

MINDEN
$199,000
10.75 ACRES
MLS X12744746

GULL RIVER
$325,000
1.05 ACRES
MLS X13449662

COMMERCIAL

Class B Gravel Quarry
$800,000
MLS X13071716

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Glimpses of the past

An old favourite revisited

THIS 5 X 7 inch photograph is significant for several reasons. It has been discussed previously in this series of vignettes, but additional information is provided on the back of this particular image.

It appears to have been produced by *Photo Engravers & Electrotypers Limited*, of 91 Gould Street, Toronto. It is unclear who took the photograph but credit is claimed by the *Travel And Publicity Bureau*, Parliament Building, Toronto, Canada.

RUSS WUNKER
Glimpses of the Past

The image itself is listed as "Haliburton Scenic Highway, Miners Bay." It depicts the Cameron Road as it winds around the eastern extremity of Miners' Bay, in front of what later became Pine Ridge Resort. The wheel track flowing into it is the Davis Lake Road.

Negotiating the gravel highway is an early touring car that appears to date to the 1930s. This is confirmed by a framed copy of *The Evening Telegram* dated Friday, June 19, 1936, which includes the picture. This artifact, which was donated by a Miners' Bay Lodge guest, featured Haliburton County and the unlimited possibilities available to be sampled. The image was again utilized to promote the area, as the front piece in Susan Wilsons' *Explore Haliburton*, published in 1997.

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Artist image above: Jane Selbie

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August 1st - 10 to 8pm
Extended Hours
August 2nd - 11 to 4pm

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Haliburton HIGHLANDS Seniors Active Living Centre

Check out this month's SALC events and activities for residents aged 55+

Games & Cards/Board Games drop-in
- various dates in August
Seniors Stretch Class
- August 4, 11, 18
Exercise Classes with Georgia
- August 4, 11, 18
Seniors Balance & Cardio Fitness Class
- August 4, 11, 18
Exercise with Georgia
- August 5 & 19
Senior Stretch Class
- August 6, 13, 20
Gentle Stretch, Balance & Relaxation
- August 7 & 21
Painting Class
- August 10 & 20
Qi Gong
- August 10, 17, 24 & 31
SALC Webinar: HHHS Community Support Services & more!
- August 11
Spot the Scam
- August 12
SALC Webinar: Early Settler Medicine & the Legacy of Dr. Agnes Jamieson
- August 13
Creative Connections, Interactive Arts Workshop
- August 14
SALC Webinar: Service Canada Programs and Services Info Session
- August 19
Crafternoon Drop-In
- August 19
Thrive in the Gym
- August 22
SALC Webinar - Exploring the Warning Signs of Dementia
- August 25
Wills & Estates with Angrove Law
- August 28

For full details, visit HaliburtonCounty.ca/SALC or pick up a calendar at a municipal office, library or Legion near you!

Haliburton County Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC)

Through this program, older adults (55+) and seniors (65+) are invited to get active, make friends, and be well!

The SALC Program is designed to provide social, cultural, learning, and recreational opportunities for seniors to stay fit, healthy and socially connected in their communities.

SALC Programming is available in Haliburton County through collaboration between the County of Haliburton and local municipalities, the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, and multiple partners.

Funding for this program has been provided by the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

Ontario

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Bird bath by Jill Moulton

Sunset by Tammy Nash

Curious chipmunk by Tammy Nash

Yellow Finch By Rob Barnes

Pileated Woodpecker by Rob Barnes

Itchy moose by Tammy Nash.

Trumpeter swan by Tammy Nash

Loon family by Jill Moulton

Merganser and babies by Rob Barnes

Northern Crescent butterfly by Jill Moulton

Little fawn by Tammy Nash

Bear face by Tammy Nash

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THANK YOU!

The 2026 Matt Duchene Charity Golf Classic was an incredible success, raising more than $314,000 in support of local healthcare. Thank you to the stellar organizing committee - Troy Austen, Vince Duchene, Susannah Moylan, Melanie Blodgett, Dawn Elliott, David Blodgett and Michelle Parker - our sponsors, golfers, donors, volunteers and auction contributors who made it all happen. Thanks to MC Rick Lowes and auctioneer Keith Moore for a dynamic evening program. Heartfelt thanks to the entire Duchene family - Matt, Ashley, Vince, Chris, Emile and Jane for their unwavering dedication to enhancing healthcare close to home. A special shoutout to Beau, Jaymes and Ellie Duchene for their beautiful rendition of 'Oh Canada'. From the staff and Board of Directors of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - thank you - for your generosity, your partnership, and your belief in local healthcare.

$314,592 RAISED IN SUPPORT OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

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OPERAS

LET'S MAKE OPERA! *ENCORE*
Back by popular demand! 4 NEW SHORT OPERAS based on stories from Haliburton County created and performed by local amateur artists. (Community School opera creation project fully funded in 2025 by OTF).
Wednesday, August 19th | 7:30-9:30pm

SUOR ANGELICA + STAGED SCENES
Featuring HOS Alum, soprano LAUREN MARGISON, as a special guest in Puccini's one act tragic masterpiece, this powerful work explores universal themes of maternal love, struggles with faith, and redemption in the face of great sorrow.
Combined with additional short scenes from various operas, join us for a powerful and engaging evening of opera!
Saturday, August 22nd | 7:30-9:30pm

DON PASQUALE - DONIZETTI
One of the zaniest and most loved of all Donizetti's operas, this three-act comic opera follows the fortunes of young Ernesto, recently disinherited by his wealthy, cranky uncle, Don Pasquale, for refusing an arranged marriage in favour of the penniless widow Norina. A hilarious sit-com for all ages. Find out if love wins in the end!
August 27th, 29th, 31st | 7:30-10:00pm
Pre-performance chat @6:30pm
August 30th | 2:00-4:30pm
All operas presented at Northern Lights Pavilion, Haliburton

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Sunday, August 16th | 2:00-4:15pm
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CONCERTS

OPERA TO BROADWAY
Thursday, August 6th | 7:30-9:00pm
Favourite selections from opera and musical theatre featuring HOS '26 professional performers.

POP GOES THE OPERA!
Thursday, August 13th | 7:30-9:00pm
Opera, operetta, & musical theatre selections featuring HOS '26 professional performers.
Both concerts presented at St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton

PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN EVENTS:

#1: MUSIC ON THE WATER
Saturday, August 8th | 6:00-7:00pm
Fairfield Bay, Mountain Lake, Minden
WATER ACCESS ONLY

#2: WHY CHOOSE OPERA?
Tuesday, August 11th | 7:30-8:45pm
Abbey Gardens Tent, Haliburton

#3: CANADIAN COMPOSER'S WORKSHOP
Tuesday, August 25th | 7:30-8:45pm
St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton

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Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Fisher in a tree by Tammy Nash

Legion Events

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Mondays: Open 7 to 10 p.m.
Tuesdays: Closed, Special Events Only.
Wednesdays: Open 2 to 10 p.m.
Thursdays: Open 2 to 10 p.m.
July 30 - Horsehoes 7 p.m., $5/person
Fridays: Open 2 to 11 p.m. July 31
Wings and Jam Session 5 to 8 p.m. - $15/lb, July 10 - Fish & Chips 5 to 8 p.m., 1pc - $15 2pc - $20,
Saturdays: Open 2 to 7 p.m.
Sundays: Closed, Special Events Only.
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

Branch 441 Kinmount

Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Email: 441RCL@gmail.com. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105.

Branch 129 Haliburton

Planning a function, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 10 a.m. to noon, No Darts for the Summer. Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 - 11 p.m.
Friday - Full menu 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fish and Chips and Wings 4 to 7 p.m..
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 9:30 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice.
Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636

HIGHLANDS EAST Yours to Explore highlandseast.ca

Events and Activities

Wilberforce Fair August 7 & 8

Join us for the Biggest Little Fair around! We have expanded this year. Friday night events include a children's pet show, petting zoo, line dancing, pony pull and a parade. Saturday morning start your day with a Breakfast at the LWC at 8:00 a.m. On stage entertaining will be Gord Kidd and Friends and others. Events include kid's world, antique and classic car show, Great Canadian Lumberjacks, pedal tractor pull, dunk tank, horse draw, petting zoo, sailboat races, nail driving competition, penny raffle, corn maze, and much more. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Friday and 10:00 a.m. Saturday. Admission on Friday night is FREE. Saturday admission is $10 Teens $5 and children 12 & under in for FREE. For a complete schedule and more details on how to enter the competitions visit WilberforceFair.com.

Wilberforce Red Cross Outpost Events: Annual Corn Roast

Saturday, August 15, beginning at 6:00 pm. Celebrate the anniversary of the opening of the Red Cross Outpost Museum with corn on the cob, hot dogs, cake and ice cream. Enjoy a great social time with neighbours and friends.

Highland Grove Heritage Day

Saturday, August 22 from 10am to 3pm. The day will include a BBQ (11-2pm), live music (12-3pm), book and yard sale. If you bring along a picture it could be put on a mug for $10. Also an opportunity to visit the School House Museum, and look up your family roots.

Geocaching

Geocaching is a family friendly outdoor game. It's often referred to as "treasure hunting with a high tech twist" because you use the geocaching.com website and either a GPS device or a smartphone. GPS Rentals are available from the Visitor Information Centre and come preloaded so you can start playing right away

Old Times Afternoon Tea

Saturday, August 22. 1 to 4 pm. Enjoy old fashioned tea and sweets. Bring a friend and make new ones in a special place.

Mineral Collecting

Mineral collecting is a fun outdoor activity. Adults and kids alike will delight in the chance to dig for buried treasure and bring home some colourful gems of your very own! Get a Permission to Collect form (free) from our website highlandseast.ca.

503 Street Sale

Come to downtown Gooderham at Highway 507/503 to shop or sell! Set up free anywhere alongside the Gooderham Pioneer Cemetery. Bring your own table and chairs. Feel free to buy or sell - anything goes - from the practical to the eclectic! Organized by Gooderham Community Action Group. For more information call Faye 705-854-1424 or email GCAG503@gmail.com

Visitor Information Centre Open

Our Visitor Information Centre at 2786 Essonville Line in Wilberforce, at the Curling Club, is open Thursday to Monday 10 am to 4 pm, (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). We offer mineral permission to collect forms, directions, geocaching information and GPS rentals, trails, events, and other general area information. Free Wi-Fi is also available.

For more details, more events, and to submit an event visit our website at

calendar.highlandseast.ca

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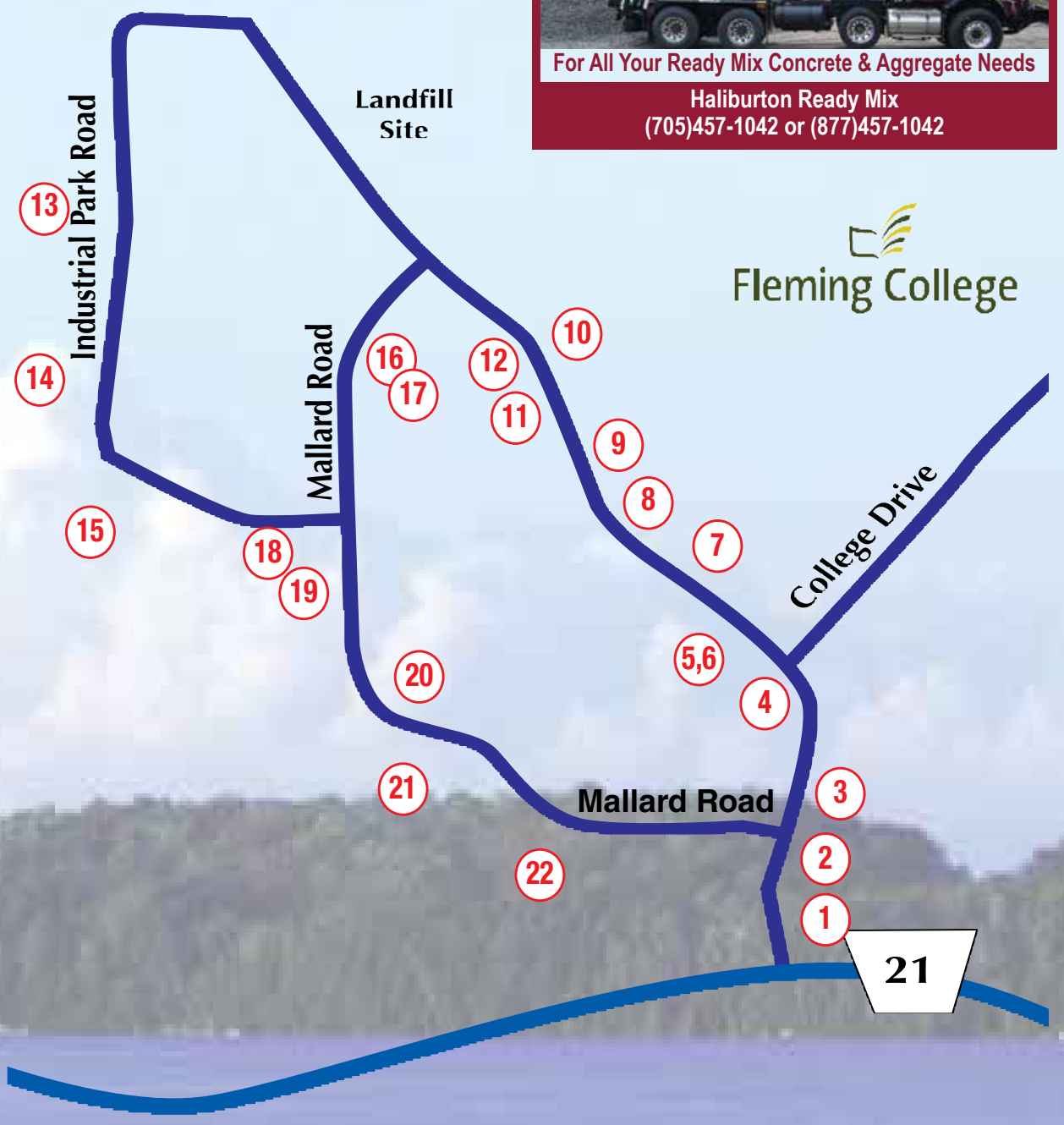

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Key Responsibilities:
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- Diagnose vehicle malfunctions and complete repairs accurately and efficiently
- Inspect vehicles to identify additional safety or service-related needs
- Communicate repair procedures and findings clearly with Service Advisors
- Complete road tests and safety inspections
- Maintain productivity while meeting dealership quality standards
- Support overall service department efficiency and customer satisfaction

Qualifications:
- Valid Automotive Service Technician Certificate of Qualification (310S)
- Strong mechanical and diagnostic aptitude
- Valid Ontario Driver's Licence (Class G) with a clean driving record
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team-oriented environment
- Positive, professional attitude with strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to operate both manual and automatic transmissions
- Previous dealership experience preferred; GM training considered an asset

What We Offer:
- Competitive compensation based on experience
- Ongoing training and professional development opportunities
- Supportive team environment in a locally owned dealership

We do thank all applicants in advance, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Send your resumes to Al Clement, Service Manager
al@currychevrolet.ca

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

A 1950's Gull Lake Guest Experience
When: July 28, 8 to 9 p.m.
Where: Miners' Bay Church, at the foot of the Rock Cut, at the corner of Highway 35 and Miners' Bay Rd.
Weekly Wednesday-night history presentations exploring local history, significant past events, and personal stories from the presenter's own life. Each session features a unique theme plus new local stories and vignettes not shared before. The Air Conditioning will be on, and complimentary cold drinks provided. All are welcome!

Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
When: July 30, 5:30 p.m. to Dusk
Where: Kawartha Dairy, Minden
Weather Permitting. These events are open to owners of Classic Automobiles and the people who love them.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Fundraiser Concert Featuring Thom Lambert
When: Saturday Aug. 1, 7 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Fleming School of Arts & Design.
297 College Dr, Haliburton
Join HHLT and Thom Lambert for a night of song. Featuring original, locally-brewed songs with a unique flavour: Thom is inspired to write about beauty, small kindnesses, and whisky, sometimes all in the same song. Delivered with a powerful voice that can purr or growl, his observations and stories are delivered with equal parts reverence and wit. Register in advance on haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Admission by donation.

Haliburton Lions' volunteer toll bridge day
Where: Across from the Library on Maple Avenue Road in Haliburton
When: Saturday, Aug. 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Come on out and show us your support! Volunteer donations. All donations are used to support our community. More information www.haliburtonlions.com

Shade Gardening
When: Aug. 4, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside St., Minden
Join the Minden & District Horticultural Society to learn about "Shade Gardening" from guest speaker Anna Mizyn, followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

Canadian/american relations up to 1840
When: Aug 5, 8 to 9 p.m.
Where: Miners' Bay Church, at the foot of the Rock Cut, at the corner of Highway 35 and Miners' Bay Rd.
Weekly Wednesday-night history presentations exploring local history, significant past events, and personal stories from the presenter's own life. Each session features a unique theme plus new local stories and vignettes not shared before. The Air Conditioning will be on, and complimentary cold drinks provided. All are welcome!

Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
When: August 6, 5:30pm to Dusk
Where: A&W Parking Lot, Haliburton
Weather Permitting. These events are open to owners of Classic Automobiles and the people who love them.

Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
When: August 12, 5:30pm to Dusk
Where: Edgewater Grill, Kinmount
Weather Permitting. These events are open to owners of Classic Automobiles and the people who love them.

Canadian/American Relations 1840 – 1900
When: Aug 12, 8 to 9 p.m.
Where: Miners' Bay Church, foot of Rock Cut, corner of Hwy 35 and Miners' Bay Rd.
Weekly Wednesday-night history presentations exploring local history, significant past events, and personal stories from the presenter's own life. Each session features a unique theme plus new local stories and vignettes not shared before. The Air Conditioning will be on, and complimentary cold drinks provided. All are welcome!

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COUNTY LIFE
Cottage Country Killers
Don't read this book when things can go bump in the night

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY
ECHO
The Voice of the Highlands since 1884

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1997 Vol. 115, No. 24 • 68 PAGES 90 cents (incl. GST)

Forest tax rebate change to have a significant impact

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Taxpayers across the Highlands could suffer a "dramatic" financial hit next year when the provincial government changes the tax rebate system for owners of private woodlands, municipal officials fear.

They say municipalities may end up with no choice but to turn to residential property owners to make up for the substantial tax revenues they'll lose because of the planned reforms.

"It's going to have huge implications in the Highlands," said Snowdon clerk Ernie Hills.

Hills recently invited a regional tax assessor to a meeting of the county's clerks and politicians to explain some of the proposed tax reforms that are set to take effect on January 1, 1998.

While there are many changes planned, among the most significant for this area is the province's plan to revamp the Managed Forest Tax Rebate Program.

Currently, owners of private woodlands larger than 10 hectares can qualify for a property tax rebate of 75 per cent, provided they have a management plan in place to direct logging the forest in a sustainable way.

Under the existing program, municipalities receive their property taxes in full and the woodlot owners receive their rebates from the province.

See ACTUAL page 5

PRICE: 84 cents plus GST = 90 cents

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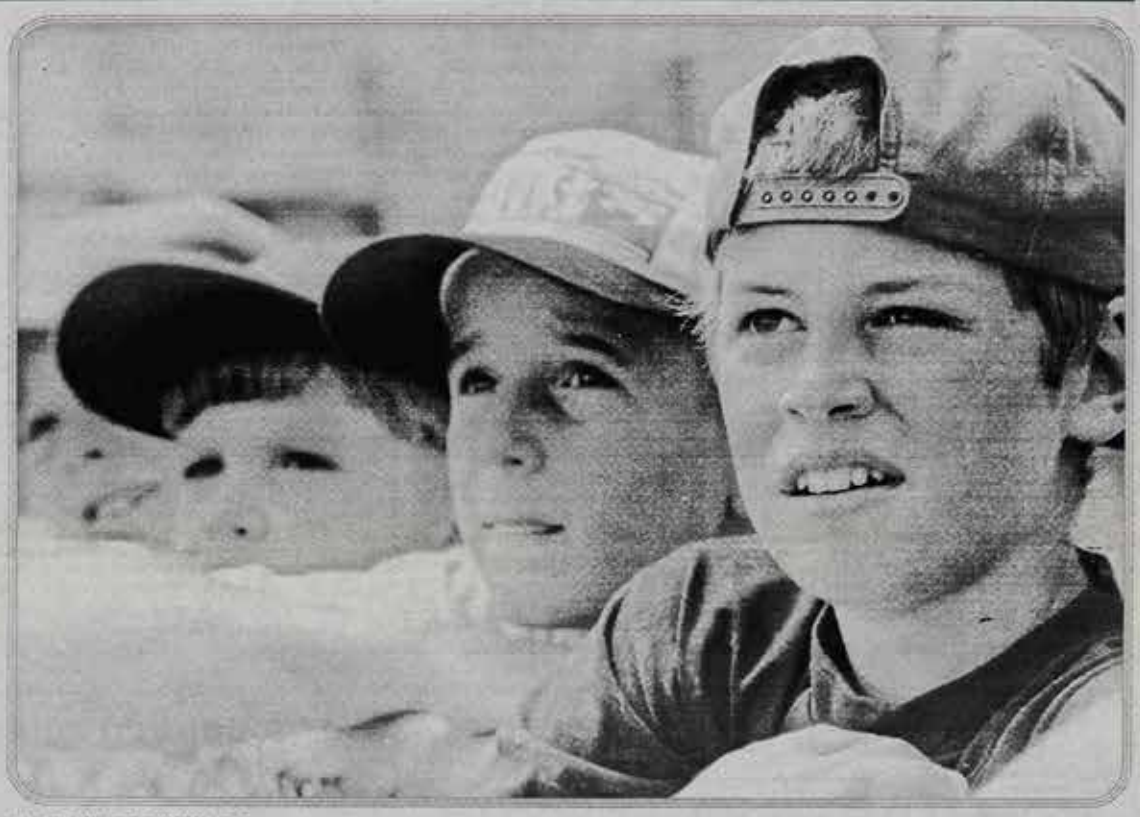

THE BOYS OF SUMMER: Sunny days, a baseball diamond, and one of the most familiar scenes of summer: (from right) Brandon Bowman, Jordan Miner, Adam de Carlo and Josh Townsend of Wilberforce watch a Gooderham player's ball as it streaks through the sky at the Harcourt ball diamond on Saturday. For more photos of the Loop Minor Softball League tournament, please see page 14.

County prepares strategy for the future

by MARIA CALABRESE
Staff Reporter

About 120 people from different sectors of the county attended Haliburton County's first strategic planning meeting at the Legion Hall on July 24 to share ideas about the future of the area, but they have a lot of work ahead of them to turn their ideas into practical solutions.

"Once you embark on a real, live, community-based strategic planning process it requires a significant, ongoing, long-term commitment, otherwise you might as well forget it," said community economics development expert, Dr. Chris Bryant, who facilitated the meeting.

The public consultation meeting had a broad representation by politicians, business owners, health service workers and others in various industries including tourism, forestry and the arts; 21% of participants were representing their cottager or property owner associations, 16% represented different agencies or organizations, and an impressive 42% were concerned citizens taking an active role in community planning.

About 72% of participants were residents of the county while 27% were cottagers with permanent homes mostly in the Toronto area. They, along with the guidance of Bryant and 11 local group facilitators, put their heads together to try form a long-term strategy for the county.

There were some comments made during the meeting suggesting that the group was just too big to come up with real, workable plans instead of just rhetoric and vague ideas, but there seemed to be some agreement as to the main stumbling blocks towards building a better community.

The rivalry between neighbouring towns needs to be dismantled in order for all areas of the county to co-operate towards a successful future. The county also needs to build a more diversified year-round economy base apart from tourism, while plans should be implemented to better promote the area through marketing and taking advantage of resources that are already out there including publications, agencies and the Internet. Many also felt public transportation to and from the county as well as locally needed improvement.

According to the previous census, 25% of the county's population is over the age of 65, and with a glut of baby boomers retiring in the next decade, improved health services and affordable retirement housing were earmarked as trends that the county wasn't currently prepared to deal with.

And, providing social and employment opportunities for youth was also a concern voiced by a few younger participants who attended the nearly four-hour long session.

Building on the community's strengths is as integral to the process of strategic planning as trying to solve the area's shortcomings. The scenic area is

See WAYS page 4

> *"It requires a significant, ongoing, long-term commitment, otherwise you might as well forget it"*
>
> **Planning consultant Chris Bryant**

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BED 4 BATH 3

GRACE LAKE

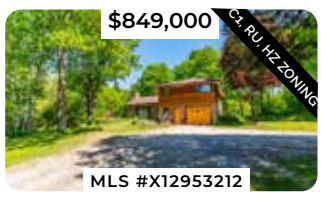
BED 3 BATH 1

GULL LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1

GOODERHAM LAKE

BED 3+2 BATH 2

HIGHWAY 35 MINDEN


BED 3 BATH 2

BARNUM LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1+1

KUSHOG LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1

LONG LAKE

BED 6 BATH 1+1

KENNISIS RIVER

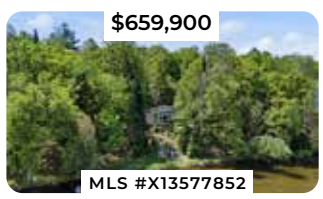
BED 3 BATH 1

KENNISIS LAKE

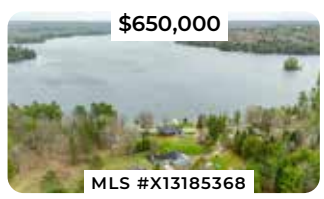
BED 3 BATH 1+1

BIG BROTHER LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1+1

DRAG LAKE


BED 3 BATH 1

REYNOLDS ROAD


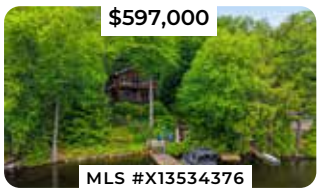
BED 3 BATH 2+1

SOUTH PORTAGE LAKE

BED 2 BATH 1

HALIBURTON VILLAGE

BED 2 BATH 2

ALLEN LAKE


BED 3 BATH 2

WEST SETTLEMENT RD

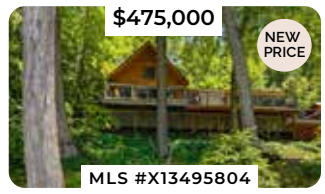
BED 2 BATH 1

SILVER BEACH

BED 2 BATH 2

KUSHOG LAKE, HWY 35

BED 3 BATH 2

ALLEN LAKE


BED 3 BATH 1

MONROCK LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1

LITTLE STRAGGLE LAKE

BED 3 BATH 1

COUNTY ROAD 503

BED 2 BATH 1

GLAMOR LAKE ROAD

BED 2 BATH 1

PROVIDENCE DR

BED 2 BATH 1+1

WENONA LAKE ROAD

BED 2 BATH 1

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31.19 Acres MLS #X13527630

Adeline Trail
REDSTONE LAKE
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